BIG CIRCLE **THE PROPERTY OF THE PROPERTY OF

2014年 冬号





基地内イベントカレンダー

- ・フォスター・フリーマーケット 2月 1・2日 12:00-15:00
- ・コートニー・フリーマーケット 2月 8・9日 7:00-10:00 2月22・23日 7:00-10:00
- ・キンザー・フリーマーケット 2月15・16日 12:00-15:00

- ・フォスター・フリーマーケット 3月 1・2日 12:00-15:00
- ・コートニー・フリーマーケット 3月8・9日 7:00-10:00 3月22・23日 7:00-10:00
- ・キンザー・フリーマーケット 3月15・16日 12:00-15:00

- ・フォスター・フリーマーケット 4月 5・6日 12:00-15:00
- ・コートニー・フリーマーケット 4月12・13日 7:00-10:00 4月26・27日 7:00-10:00
- ・キンザー・フリーマーケット 4月19・20日 12:00-15:00

フリーマーケットの日程・場所は変更になる可能性があります。 最新の情報はwww.mccsokinawa.com/fleamarket または 098-970-5829まで。英語に続いて、日本語のアナウンスが流れます。雨天の場合はキャンセルになることがありますのでご注意ください。 尚、出店は米軍・軍属のID所持者に限らせていただいております。

大きな輪 あて先

〒901-2300 沖縄県中頭郡北中城村石平 在沖海兵隊基地 Bldg.1, CPAO (UNIT 35001) 大きな輪 編集係

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「大きな輪」は、性別・年齢・国籍を問わず、多くの読者の皆様のご意見、 で感想、ご質問をお待ちしております。氏名・住所・電話番号を明記の上、 ファクシミリ、eメール、または封書にて下記の「大きな輪」編集係までお 送りください。掲載させて頂いた方には、「大きな輪」各号を郵送いたします。 お待ちしております。





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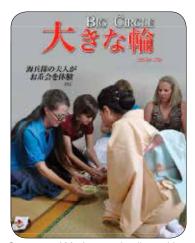


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大きな輪

日本語のツイッターもあります! ぜひフォローしてみて下さい。

on the cover



Spouses of Marines and sailors with the 4th Marine Regiment were invited to a Nago City resident's home and experienced a Japanese tea ceremony Sept. 26. 9月26日、第4海 兵連隊に所属する海兵隊員や海軍兵 の配偶者が名護市の住宅に招かれ、お 茶会を体験した。Photo by Hiroko Tamaki

各基地 渉外官への お問合せは

基地渉外官は、在沖米軍 各基地と地域社会との架 け橋です。各基地の渉外 プログラムについては下 記までお問合せくださ い。電話でのお問合わせ は以下の通り。Eメール でご連絡される場合は、 okinawa.mcbb.fct@usmc.mil まで。件名の欄にお問合 わせ先のキャンプ名をご 記入ください。

シュワーブ(名護市)

[交換] 098-970-5555 [内線] 625-2544

ハンセン(金武町) 098-969-4509

コートニー(うるま市) 098-954-9561

フォスター(北谷町・他) 098-970-7766

普天間(宜野湾市)

[交換] 098-970-5555 [内線] 636-2022

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在沖米海軍(嘉手納基地) 098-961-6748

大きな輪 BIG CIRCLE •



2014年 冬号

もくじ



Learning about American tradition pg. 14

Lance Cpl. Fernando Bonilla Jr., a field radio operator, makes a pilgrim hat with a child at the Taichuen Children's Home Nov. 22 during a Thanksgiving event. 11月22日、袋中園で行われた感謝祭のお祝いで、 同園の子供と一緒に最初のアメリカ入植者ピルグリムの帽子を作るフェルナンド・ボニージャ・ジュニア上等 兵。 Photo by Lance Cpl. Matthew Myers

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- 11 | 日本文化に触れる 海兵隊・海軍兵の夫人が お茶会を体験
- 13 | アメリカの文化を知る 児童園の子供たちが米軍人と共に 感謝祭を祝う

- 15 | 迅速な行動 偶然通りがかった海兵隊員らが 交通事故の被害者に対応
- 17 | 災害対策演習 海兵隊の演習に自衛隊と 地元住民が参加
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新年の 御挨拶



Happy New Year! I would like to extend my sincere greetings to Marines, civilians, their families and the readers of Big Circle as they welcome a glorious New Year filled with hope.

I would like to take this opportunity to express my appreciation to the members of the U.S. Marine Corps for their volunteer activities, such as cleaning streets and beaches, visiting welfare facilities, and assisting in local events throughout Okinawa. Such grass-root endeavors build positive relationships with local communities and deepen mutual understanding.

This past April, the consolidated plan for facilities and areas in Okinawa was announced and the West Futenma Housing area on Camp Foster is slated for return to Okinawa in March of this year. The Okinawa prefectural government believes an effective use of the returned land will lead to economic development and increased job opportunities.

I hope the Marine Corps community members will continue to learn about the history, culture and circumstances of Okinawa and maintain high morals to further enhance the relationship with the Okinawan people.

May the New Year be bright and peaceful.

HIROKAZU NAKAIMA

仲井眞 弘多

OKINAWA PREFECTURAL GOVERNOR



沖縄県知事

新年あけましておめでとうございます。在沖海兵隊員・軍属およびそのご家族の皆様、そして「大きな輪」の読者の皆様におかれましては、希望に満ちた輝かしい新春をお迎えのこととお慶び申し上げます。

在沖海兵隊の皆様には、日頃より道路や海岸などでの清掃活動や福祉施設での交流活動、県内各地で開催される地域行事への積極的な協力など、様々なボランティア活動をいただき、感謝申し上げます。このような草の根レベルの活動は、地域住民との良好な関係を構築し、相互理解を深めていくものと考えております。

沖縄の米軍基地については、昨年4月に「沖縄における在日米 軍施設・区域に関する統合計画」が発表され、来年3月には、キャンプ瑞慶覧西普天間地区が返還される予定となっております。

沖縄県は、返還跡地を効果的に活用することが、経済振興・雇 用拡大につながるものと考えております。

海兵隊の皆様におかれましては、沖縄の歴史・文化・社会事情などについての理解を深めて頂き、規律保持に努め、県民との関係がより良きものとなることを期待申し上げます。新しい年が平和で明るい年になりますよう祈念しまして、新年のご挨拶といたします。

Maj. Gen. C. L. Hudson

CLハドソン少将

Marine Corps Installations Pacific Commanding General



海兵隊太平洋基地司令官

大きな輪の読者の皆様、あけましておめでとうございます。

妻のクリケットと末娘のカーソン共々、昨年6月に沖縄に参りました。沖縄での生活や様々な体験を楽しんでおります。沖縄は本当に美しい所であり、その一員になれたことを嬉しく思っております。

アジア太平洋地域における米海兵隊の存在はますます重要となっています。海兵隊太平洋基地の海兵隊員、海軍兵、民間人は、日本政府および沖縄県の関係機関と常に協力し、合同演習を実施しております。その中には、日本の自衛隊や警察および非常事態対応機関と合同で行っているものもあります。沖縄側との関係を構築することによって、第三海兵遠征軍を支える態勢、および非常事態において沖縄の皆様を支援する態勢が整います。

自然災害が発生した場合の人命救助や迅速な復興には、日ごろの災害対策が必要不可欠です。米海兵隊は、そのような非常事態が発生した場合に対応できるよう、できる限りのことをする決意でおります。私たちは条約によって同盟国と定義されていますが、自らの選択によってパートナー、友人、そして隣人でもあるのです。沖縄は私たちの住む場所でもあり、その安全を確保するために協力していかなくてはなりません。

米海兵隊は、日本の防衛を支援するため、地域の非常事態に対応するため、 そして人道支援および災害援助の任務のために沖縄に駐留しています。つい最近も、浦添市と海兵隊のトップが、キャンプキンザーで災害時限定的立ち入り許可の現地実施協定に署名しました。これは、沖縄県民と米軍基地住民の両者の安全確保につながるものです。これで、同様の合意は5つになりました。

昨年、太平洋海兵隊基地の海兵隊員、海軍兵、そして民間人は、地元のために地域の方々と協力し、心暖かい沖縄の人との交流の機会に恵まれました。2014年も、沖縄の隣人の皆様と共に過ごし文化を共有し、私たちの仕事と生活の場であるこの特別な場所の一員であり続けたいと存じます。

New Year's

GREETINGS

Happy New Year to the readers of the Big Circle! My wife Cricket, our youngest daughter Carson, and I arrived in Okinawa in June of last year. We are enjoying living in and experiencing Okinawa. This is a beautiful island, and we are pleased to be a part of the Okinawa community.

The presence of the U.S. Marine Corps in the Asia-Pacific region is more important than ever. Marines, sailors and civilians of Marine Corps Installations Pacific continuously work with Japanese and Okinawan government agencies, participating in combined and joint exercises, some of which are with the Japan Self-Defense Forces and local police and emergency services. By building relationships with our counterparts on Okinawa, we are better prepared to support the III Marine Expeditionary Force and, in time of crisis, our neighbors here on Okinawa.

Disaster preparedness is critical for safeguarding lives and quick recovery from the impacts of a natural disaster. The United States Marine Corps is committed to doing everything it can to prepare to respond in the event of such a crisis. By treaty we are allies, and by choice we are partners, friends and neighbors. Okinawa is our home too, and we must work together to ensure that our home remains safe.

U.S. Marines are stationed in Okinawa to support the defense of Japan; respond to regional crises; and perform humanitarian and disaster-relief missions. Recently, we signed a Local Implementation Agreement between Okinawa-based officials with Urasoe City and Marine Corps leaders at Camp Kinser for limited humanitarian access in the case of a natural disaster on Okinawa. This helps to ensure the mutual safety of both the citizens of Okinawa and personnel stationed on U.S. installations. This agreement is the fifth of its kind in recent years.

Throughout the past year, Marines, sailors and civilians of MCIPAC enjoyed every opportunity to interact with our generous friends here on Okinawa, working for and with the local community. As we move into 2014, we look forward to another successful year of sharing time and culture with our Okinawan neighbors and continuing to be active members of the special place we live and work.



CAMP HANSEN キャンプハンセン



Col. Stephen B. Lewallen スティーブン・B・ルアレン大佐

Haisai! Akemashite Omedeto Gozaimasu,

Happy New Year from the Marines, sailors and civilian employees of Camp Hansen! It has been a true honor to be a part of the local communities adjacent to Camp Hansen, especially Kin Town and the villages of Ginoza and Onna. We are delighted to share cultural, athletic and educational events with our friends in the local community.

The Marines and sailors of Camp Hansen have remained very active in community outreach programs. It was a great pleasure to see over 300 children and family members from the surrounding communities enjoy our Halloween Trick or Treat 2013 event. Camp Hansen Marines and sailors have participated in the Let's Play in English program at many preschools and a kindergarten. They have thoroughly enjoyed interacting with children throughout the year. It has also been a blessing for Camp Hansen to build outstanding relationships with local business and rehabilitation schools. We have also established a sports program and are integrating sports as part of our community relations program. In November, the Camp Hansen Tigers played the Ginoza Village Office team in a friendly game of baseball.

I would like to thank our counterparts and good friends in the Kin Town Office, the village offices of Ginoza and Onna, the Okinawa Defense Bureau Kin Office, the Kin Chamber of Commerce, the Kin Bar/Restaurant Owner's Association and the Ishikawa Police Department. I wish you all a prosperous new year in 2014 as we endeavor to further our relationships with our wonderful Okinawan friends. ハイサイ! あけましておめでとうございます。

キャンプハンセンに所属する海兵隊員、海軍兵、そして民間人従業員を代表し、新年のお慶びを申し上げます。キャンプハンセンに隣接する地元地域、特に金武町、宜野座村そして恩納村の一員として、地元地域の友人の皆様と文化、スポーツそして教育的な行事を共有できることは、大きな喜びです。

例年同様、キャンプハンセンの海兵隊員及び海軍兵達は、積極的に様々な地域交流活動を続けております。キャンプハンセンにて行われた「トリックオアトリート2013」のハロウィーンのイベントでは、300名以上の地元地域の子供達や家族の方々が、文化交流を楽しみました。また、多くの海兵隊員及び海軍兵が、幼稚園や保育所での「英語で遊ぼう」プログラムへ参加し、子供達との交流を心から楽しみました。そしてビジネスやリハビリテーションの専門学校に通う学生達と友好関係を築けたことは、キャンプハンセンにとって非常に光栄なことでした。昨年度は交流活動の一環としてスポーツプログラムを立ち上げ、11月にはキャンプハンセンタイガースが、宜野座村役場チームとの野球の親善試合を行いました。

金武町役場をはじめ、宜野座村、恩納村両役場、沖縄防衛局金武出張所、金武町商工会、金武町社交飲食業組合そして石川署の関係各機関の友人の皆様には、ご理解、ご協力を賜り、感謝申し上げます。今後とも、素晴らしい沖縄の友人の皆様との親交を深めることができるよう努め、2014年が皆様にとり繁栄の年となりますよう祈念致します。





Sae Afuso, left, and 1st Lt. Gregory M. Macias talk to each other during a Thanksgiving-themed meal Nov. 21 at the Hikarigaoka nursing home. 11月21日、光が丘老人ホームで行われた感謝祭の食事会で会話を楽しむ安富祖さえさん(左)とグレゴリー・M・マシアス中尉。 Photo by Lance Cpl. Diamond N. Peden



Nakasone Hinata, 4, paints Keira C. Hegel's face during the 2nd annual Haunted Hansen Halloween Party Oct. 31 at the Camp Hansen USO. 10月31日にキャンプハンセンのUSOで行われたハロウィーンパーティーで、キエラ・C・ヘーゲルさんの顔にペイントをする仲宗根ひなたちゃん。 Photo by Lance Cpl. Henry J. Antenor



CAMP SCHWAB キャンプシュワーブ



Col. Richard D. Hall リチャード・D・ホール大佐

Greetings and Happy New Year.

2013 was a wonderful year with many reasons to be thankful. Our relationship with our Henoko and Nago neighbors continued to grow as we worked together in community projects and participated in the many cultural and sporting events. We commit ourselves to learning more about local culture, values and beliefs, thus enabling us to further demonstrate a much deeper, Okinawan-type of respect for our local citizenry.

We are very fortunate to have been invited and mutually participated in numerous events over the past several months. We have continued our ongoing commitment to the Let's Play with English program where approximately 50 Camp Schwab Marines interact with about 650 children of 16 separate kindergarten and nursery schools in Nago City. We also teach approximately 77 local adults each Wednesday night at Camp Schwab. And we enthusiastically co-participate in the annual Camp Schwab Festival, local beach cleanups, the Triennial Henoko Giant Tug-of-War Festival and the local favorite, sumo wrestling, where we had the first-ever female participation.

On behalf of our Marines, sailors and civilians, we very much appreciate our gracious neighbors' overwhelming hospitality and want to wish you all a prosperous new year filled with great joy and happiness.

あけましておめでとうございます。

2013年は、感謝に満ちた素晴らしい年となりました。辺野古や名護市の皆様と共に実施した地域交流活動および数々の文化行事やスポーツイベントへの参加を通して、互いの絆を深めることができました。地元の文化や価値観や考え方を学び、より深く沖縄の人達のように地域のことを重んじる心を示していく所存です。

過去数ヶ月だけでも、数多くの催しに招待されたり互いに参加しあったりする機会に恵まれました。継続的に行っている「英語で遊ぼう」活動では、キャンプシュワーブ所属の海兵隊員約50人が、名護市内の幼稚園や保育園16ヶ所で約650人の子どもたちと交流することができました。毎週水曜夜には、キャンプシュワーブで約77人の社会人の方々に英語を教えました。毎年恒例のキャンプシュワーブフェスティバル、海岸清掃活動、3年に1度の大綱引きなどにも互いに参加し、また辺野古角力大会には初めて女性が参加しました。

海兵隊員、海軍兵、民間人を代表して、近隣の皆様の暖かいホスピタリティーに感謝の意を表し、新しい年が慶びと幸せに満ちた一年でありますようお祈り申し上げます。



Lance Cpl. Tyler R. Papalski, left, talks with Chieko Toyoshima while clearing weeds from a recreation field during an annual cleanup of the field May 20. 5月20日、ゲートボール場で清掃活動をしながら話をするタイラー・R・パパルスキー上等兵と豊島ちえこさん。

Photo by by Cpl. Matthew Manning



2nd Lt. Ciara G. Mamangun helps a Japanese child eat a cheeseburger April 20 at Nagomi Nursing Home for Children. 4月20日、児童養護施設なごみで、同施設の子供にハンバーガーを食べさせてあげるシアラ・ママンガン少尉。Photo by Sgt. Paul Robbins Jr.



Marines with 3rd Marine Division and students from the Asunaro Higashi Nursery School in Nago play musical chairs Sept. 26 in a classroom at the school. 9月26日、あすなろ東保育園を海兵隊員が訪れ、子供達と椅子取りゲームなどをして交流した。Photo by Lance Cpl. Nicholas S. Ranum



CAMPS FOSTER & LESTER キャンプフォスター&レスター

Happy New Year from Camps Foster and Lester. I continue to enjoy the opportunity to meet our friends and neighbors in the surrounding community.

This past year, we made great progress building a strong bond with the local government leaders of Chatan Town, Ginowan City, Okinawa City and Kitanakagusuku Village.

We started early in the year with the Foster Festival in April. It was great to see so many families enjoying the food and festivities on the base.

Moving the festival to April helped us avoid the typhoon season, and we plan to continue this in the future. Along with Foster Fest, we held a friendship softball tournament with the Kitanakagusuku International Friendship Association. In 2014, we want to hold more of these types of events, which bring Marines and the local community closer together.

This past year we partnered with the Chatan Board of Education and held a job-shadowing event on Camp Foster. Six local junior high school students experienced different jobs on Camp Foster during June. Students were sent to Camp Services, the Mess Hall and to the Consolidatd Public Affairs Office. This event was a huge success and provided the students an opportunity to observe Japanese employees on Camp Foster at their work sites and learn what type of work they do.

I look forward to the promise of 2014 and all the new challenges and opportunities that the new year brings. On behalf of all the Marines, sailors, U.S. and local civilian employees, I wish everyone a happy and prosperous New Year!



Col. Katherine J. Estes キャサリン・J・エステス大佐

キャンプ フォスター&レスターより新春のお 喜びを申し上げます。これまでと同様に地域の皆 様と出会えることを楽しみにしております。

昨年は、近隣の地域である北谷町、宜野湾市、 沖縄市、そして北中城村の各首長の皆様とより強 いつながりができました。

一年の早い時期、4月にフォスターフェスティ バルが開催されました。多数の家族連れの方々 が楽しんでくださる様子を拝見し、大変嬉しく思

いました。開催時期を4月に変更したことにより台風の影響を受けにくく なりましたので、今後もこの方針を続けてまいります。フォスターフェス ティバルと並行して、北中城村の国際交流協会の皆様とソフトボール大 会を開催いたしました。2014年度も、このような地域の方々と海兵隊員 との距離を縮めるような行事をより多く開催したいと思います。

また、キャンプフォスターは北谷町教育委員会主催の中学生職場体験 プログラムに協力させていただきました。今年6月に町内の中学生6人 が、キャンプサービス、兵士用食堂、報道部で仕事を体験し、大成功に終 わりました。生徒さんたちは、キャンプフォスター内で勤務する日本人従 業員がどのような業務をしているのかを見ることができました。

2014年が良い年となることを願いつつ、新しいことへのチャレンジを 心待ちにしております。海兵隊員、海軍兵、そして軍属・日本人従業員を 代表して、新年が素晴らしい年になるようお祈り申し上げます。

Children from Airin-en Orphanage play with Hello Kitty during the Matinee for Kids April 6 at Camp Foster. 4月6日にキャンプフォスタ 一で行われた子供のための映画 上映会で、キティちゃんと遊ぶ児童 養護施設愛隣園の子供達。Photo by Lance Cpl. John S. Gargano

Norika Machida (middle), a Chatan Middle School student, serves a meal at the Mess Hall on Camp Foster June 26 during the internship program organized by the Chatan Town Board of Education. 6月26日、北谷町教育委員会主催の中学生職場 体験プログラムに参加し、キャンプフォスターの 兵士用食堂で料理を提供する北谷中学校の町田 紀香さん。Photo by Hiroko Tamak

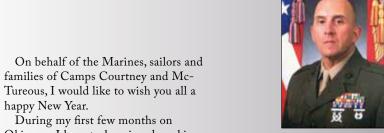




Maj. Gen. Charles L. Hudson, center; U.S. Consulate General Alfred R. Magleby, right; and the Ginowan Landowners Association President Shinichi Matayoshi, left; install a boundary marker Nov. 22 at the West Futenma Housing Area on Camp Foster. 11月22日、チャールス・L・ ハドソン少将(中央)アルフレッド・R・マグルビ総領 事(右)、又吉信一宜野湾地主会会長(左)が、キャ ンプフォスターの西普天間住宅地区に境界標識を 設置した。Photo by Cpl. Natalie M. Rostran

CAMPS COURTNEY & McTureous

キャンプコートニー&マクトリアス



COL。MICHAEL W. TAYLOR うるま市職員ならびに地元住民の方々と協力 マイケル・W・テイラー大佐

Okinawa, I have truly enjoyed working with the people of Uruma City. It has been a privilege to work with both the local government officials and Okinawa residents. Together we have made events

happy New Year.

such as the local Drive Safe Campaign, the Midori no Sato Home's Holiday Celebration and the Courtney Holiday Festival a success. Our Camps have also been fortunate to have had the opportunity to come together during potlucks, community English classes and local school events, allowing us to experience and learn just some of what each of our cultures has to offer.

As we look ahead to 2014, there are innumerable opportunities on the horizon. We look forward to the upcoming friendship hijiki seaweed harvesting, school sports days and other events as a chance to further strengthen the bonds between us and our Okinawa neighbors.

My family and I look forward to the remainder of our time here in Okinawa. Our camp community as a whole thanks you for your continued generosity and looks forward to participating in more activities during this year. I would like to wish you all a prosperous and happy New Year.



コートニーならびにマクトリアス基地の海 兵隊員、海軍兵そしてその家族を代表して新 年のお慶びを申し上げます。

沖縄へ着任以来この数ヶ月、うるま市の方 々との関わりを本当に楽しんでまいりました。 できる光栄に与り、「交通安全」キャンペーン や緑の里への年の瀬のお祝い、コートニーホ リデイフェスティバルのような催しを共に行

うことができました。 また地域での英語クラスのポットラック パーティーや地元学校での催しなどの機会に恵まれ、それぞれ の文化を体験し学び合う機会を頂きました。

2014年も新しい水平線に無数のチャンスがあることでしょう。 私たちと近隣の沖縄の皆さまとの絆をさらに深める機会であ る、親善ひじき漁、運動会、その他の行事への参加を楽しみにし ております。

私の家族も私自身も、沖縄での残りの時間を楽しみたいと思 っております。キャンプコートニー&マクトリアスの皆は常日頃 の皆様方の寛容さに感謝しており、本年もより多くの活動に参加 できますことを楽しみにしております。

皆様方のご繁栄と御多幸ある新年を祈念いたします。



Military spouses participate in a potluck meal Nov. 24 with local students of an English language class in Uruma City. 11月24日、うるま市で英語ク ラスの生徒達の1品持ち寄りパーティーに米軍人の配偶者らが参加した。 Photo by Lance Cpl. Nicholas S. Ranum



Marines explain how a communications transmitter functions to students and instructors of the Japanese Joint Staff College July 3 on Camp Courtney. 7月3日、キャンプコートニー を訪れた統合幕僚学校の学生と教官に、海兵隊 員が通信装備の機能について説明した。Photo by Lance Cpl. Nicholas S. Ranum



CAMP KINSER



COL. EDMUND J. BOWEN エドマンド・ボーウェン大佐

The Camp Kinser community sends a Happy New Year to our good friends in neighboring Urasoe City and to all of our Japanese hosts on the beautiful island of Okinawa. Camp Kinser is incredibly fortunate to have such wonderful and generous friends for neighbors.

This past year has been both memorable and extremely productive. Camp Kinser accomplished many goals in 2013. First, we have made tremendous efforts to partner with Urasoe City and the surrounding area on a number of worthwhile and fun community relation projects. Our distinguished visitors include former Mayor Gima, Mayor Matsumoto, Defense Minister Onodera and members from the Urasoe Chamber of Commerce. The Aja River clean-up provided our Marines the opportunity to interact closely with our Japanese hosts and make lifelong friends along the way. We have opened up our gates with camp tours that provide a glimpse of our lives and the work we accomplish within our perimeter fence line. The Aqua Social Fes beach cleanup in Irijima was an event with over 800 participants. The camp also hosted Mayor Matsumoto at the annual Camp Kinser Holiday Festival. The festival included local talent and a performance by Miyagi Elementary School and Chijinshu Waka-Tida.

Our residents had the opportunity to enjoy the culture and customs of a number of local celebrations including the Tedako Walk and the Urasoe Tedako Festival. In turn, we hosted the annual Kinser Festival, drawing over 20,000 guests to the weekend event.

Finally, we extend a special thank you to Mayor Matsumoto, the Urasoe City Administration, the police department, the fire department, the Chamber of Commerce, the junior chambers and the Rotary Club. They have been instrumental partners in fostering this coopera-

We look forward to sharing a prosperous and happy 2014 with our close friends in Okinawa.

キャンプキンザーより、隣接する浦添市の良き友人ならびに美しい島 沖縄に住む日本人の皆さまに新年のお慶びを申し上げます。このような 素晴らしい寛大な友人を隣人として持つことができますことを、大変幸 せに感じております。

昨年は思い出に残る非常に実り多い年であり、2013年の目標として 掲げた多くの事柄を達成することができました。まず、浦添市などの周 辺地域と協力し、楽しく有意義な地域交流活動を数多く行うことに尽力 いたしました。儀間前市長、松本現市長、小野寺防衛大臣、浦添商工会 議所の会員の皆さまが、キャンプキンザーをご訪問くださいました。海 兵隊員らは、安謝川の清掃活動を通して日本人の方々と交流し、生涯の 友を作る機会を得ることができました。さらに、私たちが基地内でどの ような生活を送り任務に就いているかをご理解いただくために、視察に も門戸を開きました。西洲地区で行われた清掃活動アクアソーシャルフ ェスには、800人以上が参加いたしました。毎年恒例のキャンプキンザ ーホリデーフェスティバルには、松本市長にもご参加いただきました。フ ェスティバルでは、地元から宮城小学校や鼓衆 若太陽(ちじんしゅわか ていだ)も演舞を披露してくれました。

キンザーを住まいとする私たちは、てだこウォークやてだこ祭りなど 様々な行事を通じ、地元の文化や習慣に触れる機会に恵まれました。私 共の側は、恒例のキンザーフェストを開催し、土日合わせて2万人を越 す地元の方々にお越しいただきました。

終わりに、松本市長、浦添市行政、浦添警察署、浦添消防署、浦添商工 会議所および青年会議所、浦添ロータリークラブに深謝申し上げます。

2014年も、沖縄の友人の皆さまと共に繁栄と幸せに満ちた年が過ご せますことを祈念いたしております。



Marines participate in Shogaibutsu Kyoso, an obstacle course, Oct. 14 at the Taichuen Children's Home in Itoman City, Okinawa, as part of the home's celebration of Sports Day. 10月14日に袋中園で行われた運動会で、障害物競走 に参加する海兵隊員。Courtesy photo by Sgt. Anthony Kirby



passageway prior to an evacuation drill during the joint clean-up between Urasoe City, Urasoe Fire Department and Camp Kinser Oct. 18. 10月18日、避難訓練の 前に避難路確保のた めに浦添市、浦添市消 防、キャンプキンザー が合同で清掃活動を行 った。Courtesy photo by

Marines clean the



A team of Marines and local citizens chooses a card during the Ace of Spades Run April 20. Participants stop at stations and collect cards as they run the predetermined course. 4月20日に行われたエー スオブスペード・ランで、カードを選ぶ海兵隊 員と地元住民とのチーム。参加者は、決められ たコースを走りながら途中の停止地点でトラ ンプを集めた。Photo courtesy of Camp Kinser

MARINE CORPS AIR STATION FUTENMA

海兵隊普天間基地

On behalf of Marine Corps Air Station Futenma, I would like to extend a sincere "Shin-nen Akemashite Omedeto Gozaimas" to the entire Okinawan community. As 2014 begins, we wish all our friends and their families a very joyful and prosperous New Year!

As this will be my last official holiday greeting as the commanding officer of MCAS Futenma, I want to express my profound gratitude and appreciation to the countless Okinawans that have worked so closely with MCAS Futenma in an effort to strengthen the growing friendship between our two countries. Closer to home, I am very grateful to the city leaders and residents of

Ginowan City who worked tirelessly this past year with MCAS Futenma personnel in achieving common goals that have been beneficial to both communities. I remain encouraged that as we move into the New Year our collaborations on safety initiatives and community service events will only grow further and reap greater results.

With my time in command drawing to a close this summer, Michele and I are eternally grateful for all the opportunities to have met so many wonderful Okinawans that shared with us their customs and traditions. We take with us fond memories of great friends and experiences that will last a lifetime.

To all, we wish season's greetings and a hope that 2014 brings much happiness and excellent heath to you and your family.

U.S. Consul General Alfred R. Magleby (left) and Marine Corps Air Station Commander Col. James G. Flynn visited Futenma Shrine with Ginowan City Mayor Atsushi Sakima (third from right) and other officials Oct. 14. 10月 14日、アルフレッド・R・マグルビー米国 総領事(左)と普天間基地司令官ジェー ムス・G・フリン大佐が、佐喜真敦宜野湾 市長らと共に、普天間神宮を参拝した。

Courtesy photo by Takeshi Ashin



ジェームス・G・フリン大佐

あけましておめでとうございます。海兵隊普天 間基地を代表して、沖縄の皆さまに新年のご挨 拶を申し上げます。2014年が、私たちの友人やそ の家族の皆様にとって慶びと繁栄の年になりま すようお祈り申し上げます。

私にとって今年は、普天間基地司令官として最 後の年となります。日米両国の友好を深めるため COL. JAMES G. FLYNN 普天間基地と緊密に協力してこられた数多くの 沖縄の方々に、この場を借りて深く感謝の意を表 します。基地周辺に目を向けますと、昨年も、宜

> 野湾市役所ならびに宜野湾市民の皆様が、普天間基地との共通の目 標達成に向けたゆまぬ努力を重ね、協力してくださいました。心より お礼申し上げます。本年も、安全面や地域交流の面での協力がさら に高まり、より成果をあげると信じております。

> 今年の夏には私の任務が終了しますが、私も妻のミッシェルも、地 元の文化や伝統を教えてくださった沖縄の皆さまへの感謝を忘れま せん。これからも、素晴らしい友人たちやここでの経験がくれた思い 出を大切にしてまいります。

> 2014年も皆さまが幸せに健康に過ごされますことを祈念いたして おります。



The Marine Corps Air Station Futenma Crash Fire Rescue Team and the Ginowan City Fire Department conducted joint training on MCAS Futenma on Oct. 23. 10月23日、海兵隊普天間基地の航空機墜落対策レス キューチームと宜野湾市消防本部が合同訓練を実施し た。 Courtesy photo by Patrick Adams



Elementary school students walk up the hill through the gate of Marine Corps Air Station Futenma during an evacuation drill Sept. 4. 9月4日、小学生が海兵隊普天間基地のゲートを通って避難訓練を実施し た。Courtesy photo by Patrick Adams

MCAS Futenma, Ginowan City and Hagoromo Park Management personnel conducted a voluntary joint beach cleanup at Ginowan Tropical Beach Nov. 16. 11月16日、海兵隊普天間基地、宜野湾市、 はごろもパークマネジメントが、合同で宜 野湾市のトロピカルビーチで清掃活動を 行った。 Photo courtesy of MCAS Futern



Spouses learn traditional art of Japanese tea ceremonies

Hiroko Tamaki Lance Cpl. Nicholas S. Ranum

When spending time abroad, it is important to experience the authentic cultural traditions of the host country. That is exactly what some status of forces agreement personnel from Camp Schwab did when spouses of Marines and sailors with the 4th Marine Regiment visited the home of a Nago City resident and experienced a Japanese tea ceremony Sept. 26.

The host of the event, members of the Women's Group of the Okinawa Defense Association Northern Branch, started inviting spouses of the regiment annually a few years ago to show appreciation for Camp Schwab's support to the community.

"We had a great time and enjoyed experiencing a different culture at a Christmas party on Camp Schwab, and we heard Marines and sailors were volunteering for the local community,"

said Satoe China, who opened the house for the day's event and is the chair of the women's group. "So we wanted to do something for them in return."

After chatting over lunch prepared by the hosting members, the Americans were ushered into a tatami tea room where a tea master was waiting for them before performing the rituals of making and offering tea to the American guests.

Every movement and action of the meticulous tea ceremony was deeply appreciated by the attendees.

"Part of coming to a new country is learning the culture and traditions," said Audrey C. Mills, the family readiness officer of 4th Marines, 3rd Marine Division, III Marine Expeditionary Force. "Having the chance to try traditionally made tea by a master is something that is unique. We also got an opportunity to try on traditional Okinawa dresses, which we did not have that opportunity last year to do, so

that is something I am thankful for."

A new respect was gained for the intricacies and care taken when making tea, according to Grace Carmichael, a Marine spouse and ceremony attendee.

"The detail in the ceremony is astounding," said Carmichael. "The pride that they take in making something as simple as tea; I would just boil some water and throw in a tea bag and call it good. They have a tradition for every part of the ceremony, from preparing the tea to drinking it. It is simply amazing."

The military spouses were not alone when it came to enjoying the day spent together.

"(Members of the women's group) are always pleased and happy when we have the opportunity to meet the spouses and show them the ceremony," said China. "We hope to provide more entertainment next time in the way of traditional dance, so that they may learn (even) more about our culture the next time we have this ceremony."

Tokiko Oshiro, a tea master, shows utensils used for a tea ceremony to the spouses of the 4th Marine Regiment before performing the art of making and offering tea at a local residence in Nago City Sept. 26. 9月26日、 名護市の住宅で、お茶会を始める 前に、第4海兵連隊の隊員の夫人 たちにお茶道具を見せる大城登





Tokiko Oshiro, a tea master, teaches spouses of the 4th Marine Regiment proper tea etiquette Sept. 26 during a tea ceremony held at a local residence in Nago City. 名護市の住宅で行われたお茶会で、第4海兵連隊の隊員の夫人らにお茶 の作法を説明する大城登紀子さん。 Photo by Hiroko Tamaki



偶者がお茶会を体験

Petty officer 3rd Class Spencer Reifschneider, a religious program specialist, serves Thanksgiving dinner to children at the Taichuen Children's Home Nov. 22 during a Thanksgiving event. 11月22日に袋中園で行わ れた感謝祭のイベントで、子供た ちに感謝祭の料理を運ぶ宗教フ ログラム担当官のスペンサー・リ ーフシュナイダー伍長。Photo by Lance Cpl. Matt Myers





Marines, sailors share thanks with Taichuen children

The two most widely celebrated holiday traditions in the United States, probably equivalent to Japan's New Year's Day and Obon, are Christmas and Thanksgiving. Thanksgiving originated in Plymouth, Mass., in 1621 when the first American settlers, the pilgrims, celebrated their first harvest and invited Native Americans to a feast to express their appreciation to the Native Americans for sharing their knowledge of the land, making the pilgrims' survival possible. Now, many American families get together on the fourth Thursday of November to share in a festive meal.

Lance Cpl. Matthew Myers

Marines and sailors with Combat Logistics Regiment 35 brought holiday cheer to the Taichuen Children's Home Nov. 22, celebrating the Thanksgiving holiday and sharing a feast with the home's residents.

"The liaison for the (children's home) talked about how we could show some of our American culture, so Thanksgiving was perfect for us because that's a very big day in America," said Lt. Cmdr. Harvey Macklin, the chaplain with CLR-35, 3rd Marine Logistics Group, III Marine Expeditionary Force. "The school thought this would be a good relationship builder."

The Marines and sailors taught the children about Thanksgiving traditions and brought them holiday cheer and cross-cultural awareness.

"We called it a traditional Thanksgiving because we had our Marines and family members put together Native American and pilgrim headbands," said Col. Anthone R. Wright, the commanding officer of CLR-35. "We really wanted to show the Japanese students here what Thanksgiving was like when it was created in the United States."

The children learned about Native Americans and pilgrims, and colored Thanksgiving-themed pictures.

Following the arts and crafts, the children were served a traditional Thanksgiving dinner. It was the first Thanksgiving feast for most of the children and many of the staff.

"For many of the children here, this is the first time they have ever had

turkey," said Macklin.

During the feast, the children were shown a Thanksgiving cartoon that illustrated the first and most famous Thanksgiving in Plymouth, Mass., a celebration similar to what they were enjoying.

"The Marines have been doing a great job," said Yoshino Uehara, a staff member at the children's home. "Everything they do makes the children and staff happy."

The service members and children shared equal feelings of holiday joy and happiness.

"We're definitely bringing holiday spirit and cheerfulness to these kids," said Sgt. Marion Davis, the regimental ammunition chief with CLR-35. "Seeing the kids laughing, smiling and having a good time makes it all worth it."



海軍兵が子供たちと感

14 • WINTER 2014 • Big Circle • www.okinawa.usmc.mil/BigCircle/BigCircle.html

Marines' swift actions aid Japanese crash victim

Staff Sgt. Gordon L. Llewellyn and Sgt. David B. Schmidt were awarded a Navy and Marine Corps Achievement Medal and certificate of commendation, respectively, Dec. 1 at the Ie Shima Training Facility left a Japanese girl injured.

of the road. As they passed the vehicle, he noticed a teenaged girl lying on the sidewalk

"I ordered my driver to stop, and immediately I exited the vehicle followed by Sgt. Schmidt," said Llewellyn. "It appeared that

on the position of her body."

After checking to see if the victim was conscious, the Marines checked her pulse rate and looked for major injuries.

"She was conscious, kind of delirious, and was visibly shaken," said Schmidt. "She wanted to get up, but we kept her on on the scene shortly thereafter. Llewellyn ing to her family.

Her high pulse rate, presumably a result an emergency vehicle. of shock from the accident, was a cause for concern along with the initial assessment of members helped them secure the victim her injuries, according to Llewellyn.

"We found that her primary injuries following their response after a car crash consisted of swelling the size of a baseball Fire Department Headquarters, who on the back of her head and pain on the left later answered the telephone inquiry. "The The Marines were driving on Route side of her pelvis," said Llewellyn. "Based on 449 in Nago City Aug. 26 when Llewellyn the mechanism of injury, there was a high noticed an overturned vehicle on the side risk, in my opinion, for internal bleeding, which could have caused her condition to

As Llewellyn addressed the victim's injuries, Schmidt gained control of the crowd that had gathered and moved them away from the scene, so that emergency services she had been ejected from the vehicle based would have a clear path to the injured girl.

> "There was a (community member) there direct the crowd away from the victim," said Schmidt. "It was important to give the were noteworthy." victim space and to keep (her) calm."

The emergency service personnel arrived

the ground. I was worried about spinal or—and Schmidt assisted the Japanese emergency responders who moved the victim into

> "The first-responders told me the service (on a spine board)," said Tadashi Shingaki, patrol section chief, patrol division, Nago emergency personnel said they are very appreciative of the help and thankful to the

> Llewellyn and Schmidt's quick thinking and calm helped keep the victim safe and prevented further injuries, according to Capt. Ryan M. Ackland, the officer in charge of the Ie Shima Training Facility.

"They definitely deserve (the awards)," said Ackland. "I was in the vehicle (at the time of the incident) and I wasn't that spoke English well enough to help me expecting them to react so quickly. They jumped out and ran to help. Their actions

> According to Shingaki, the victim stayed in a hospital for about a week before return-

交通事故の被害者救助に功労賞



Capt. Ryan M. Ackland (left) shakes hands with Staff Sgt. Gordon L. Llewellyn after resenting him with a Navy and Marine Corps 迅速な処置を施したとして、同賞を授与された。

災害に対する準備態勢を確認

Emergency exercise tests Japan-U.S. disaster response

Lance Cpl. Kasey Peacock Hiroko Tamaki

Members of the Japan Ground Self-Defense Force joined the U.S. Marine Corps during Exercise Constant Vigilance 2013, which took place throughout Marine Corps Base Camp Smedley D. Butler Oct. 21-25.

The exercise tested emergency response and preparedness procedures across Marine Corps installations on Okinawa, and participants included Marine Corps Installations Pacific security forces, Naval Hospital Okinawa, Department of Defense Dependents Schools, other status of forces agreement personnel and local community members, as well as the JGSDF.

To test and guide the emergency response procedures, a scenario was created to assess and validate the capability of MCB Butler to respond to and recover from a tsunami that results in casualties and/or damage to critical assets.

Photo by Hiroko Tamaki

"This is our first time to join Exercise Constant Vigilance," said Maj. Gen. Shigeru Kobayashi, commanding general of the 15th Brigade, JGSDF. "U.S. forces invited us to join the exercise. We don't have much opportunity to do something like this with them, so this offers very good experience."

Various training evolutions were conducted at multiple locations according to the scenario. Emergency responders confirmed procedures to search for and rescue victims trapped in a car or collapsed building. Mock casualties were triaged and transferred to U.S. Naval Hospital Okinawa on Camp Foster. A

safe-haven was established and mass food distribution was demonstrated, as well as other measures critical to eliminating or reducing human suffering in the event of a natural disaster.

of the emergency vehicle at the entrance of the U.S. Naval Hospital on Camp Foster Oct. 23 during Constant Vigilance 2013. 10月23日、 演習コンスタント・ビジランス2013の中で、キャンプフォスターの海 軍病院入り口で負傷者役の人を救急車から下ろす日米の医療隊員

Japan Ground Self-Defense Force Sat. Mai. Hideki Shoii lifts Petty Officer 3rd Class Jamie E. Walters while practicing medical evacuation carries at Camp Foster Oct. 23 during Exercise Constant Vigilance 2013. 10月23 ランス2013の中で行われ

役のジェミー・E・ウォルタ -ズ3等兵曹を運ぶ正路秀 樹陸曹長。Photo by Lance Cpl. Kasey Peacock

"Everyone needs to know the basics in first-aid and also how to be a first-responder," said Petty Officer 1st Class Danny F. Brown, a hospital corpsman with 3rd Medical Battalion, 3rd Marine Logistics Group, III Marine Expeditionary Force, and leading petty officer in charge of training during the exercise. "With the next disaster potentially near, exercises like this one better prepare both of our militaries to respond in the most efficient way possible."

The knowledge sharing ensures that both organizations will be ready to respond side by side if a crisis were to occur, saving

lives and providing essential support during recovery operations.

"There is much to learn from each other by sharing and comparing medical capabilities," said Maj. Hironori Kosaki, commanding officer of the 15th Logistic Medical Support Unit. "Since we have now worked together today, we will be able to better provide care to those who need it in the future."

Along with testing the preparedness of service members, CV13 invited local civilians to evacuation drills to familiarize them with emergency procedures.

"The purpose of the exercise is to integrate our bilateral functions to be able to work with anyone, not just the two militaries," said James H. Hawley, the deputy director for the exercise. "We all play a vital role in the big picture of being ready for potential disasters."

CV13 validated the capability of all participants to effectively perform response and recovery efforts in the event of a catastrophic natural disaster.

"The communication and integration seen throughout the exercise has been nothing less than excellent," said Hawley. "We were able to coordinate care, exercise our bilateral functions, and were ultimately ready to respond."

"Today's exercise has taught us what we need to do on a daily basis to prepare ourselves. Continuous training is important for maintaining readiness," said Kobayashi. "We would like to continue taking part in the CV every year. I hope we can expand and improve our roles in future."



Children from the local community and their guardians participated in Constant Vigilance 2013 and walked the evacuation route through Camp Foster Oct. 22. 10月22 日、地元の子供達や保育園の先生が演習コンスタント・ビ ジランス2013に参加し、基地内を通って避難訓練を行っ た。Photo by Lance Cpl. Anne K. Henry

Urasoe, Marine Corps athletes share passion for sports

Lance Cpl. Pete Sanders

Athletes of the world gather every four years to participate in the Olympics, where sporting competitions break language barriers and bridge cultural gaps, uniting nations.

In this fashion, sports serve as a universal language, allowing all competitors to enjoy the day, and it was in this spirit that Okinawa and U.S. athletes

came together to compete at Camp Kinser Oct. 26 during a fast-pitch softball game.

Local community leaders and U.S. service members organized the event as a way to demonstrate the neighborly attitude both groups share, according to Koji Nikawadori, head coach for Team Urasoe.

"Events like this are a great way to show our true (relationship) to the world," said Nikawadori. "More importantly than showing the world, it shows our children that we are good neighbors to each other."

The friendly competition involved female athletes from high schools throughout the Urasoe area competing against the Ryukyu Ruckus, an all-female softball team comprised of service members with 3rd Marine Logistics Group, 3rd Marine Division and III

Marine Expeditionary Force.

"It's really cool (the leadership from both sides) could come together and put on an event like this," said Jamie Emery, the head coach, designated hitter and reserve pitcher for the Ruckus. "Everyone on the teams is passionate about softball, and this is a great way to share that passion with our host nation."

As a result of this mutual passion, both teams hold a high level of respect for each other, according to Emery.

"We see the dedication and love (the Urasoe players) have for the game and admire that very much," said Emery. "We had only eight practices to prepare for this, and I'm so proud of the way we played today."

The game ended with a tie score of 10-10 after one extra inning, but it did not lessen the enjoyment for either team.

"Playing the game is what counts, no matter who wins or loses," said Nikawadori. "Ending in a tie almost made it better."

The effort of both teams demonstrated values service members and civilians can admire, according to Nikawadori.

"Ending in a tie shows how skilled both teams are," said Nikawadori. "I tell my players, 'discipline and determination are one's destiny.' I think everyone on the field showed that today."

Immediately following the game, Lt. Gen. John Wissler and Brig. Gen. Niel E. Nelson shared a few inspirational words with the players and coaches of both teams.

"It's a good thing (the game) ended in a tie," said Wissler, the III MEF commanding general and event co-organizer.

"This way everybody wins. We came out to play and have a good time, and I can see we did that. Days like this give us a chance to continue our fulfilling relationship (with the local community), and I hope there are many more days like this."

Nelson echoed the sentiments of sportsmanship and community good will.

"Today was a great day," said Nelson, the commanding general of 3rd MLG and event co-organizer. "We (all) came out here expecting to see a great deal of camaraderie, and that's exactly what we have on many, many levels. Any time we get a chance to do that, we need to take full advantage."

Softball players from the

Marine Corps (middle)

BIG CIRCLE



大きな輪・



WINTER 2014

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Building camaraderie

Players of the Urasoe and Ryukyu Ruckus softball teams join in a group cheer Oct. 26 prior to a game at Camp Kinser. 10月26日にキャンプキンザーで行われたソフトボールの試合前に、みんなで一緒に気合 を入れる浦添チームと琉球ルックスの選手たち。。 Photo by Lance Cpl. Pete Sanders

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心の拠り所である教会で働く日本人従業員

今回の大きな輪では、基地内にあ る米軍の教会で庶務を勤める小嶺 由美さんにお話を伺いました。

編集者: 教会でのお仕事って、ど んなお仕事なんですか?

小嶺: 教会に来る方や電話に応 対しています。礼拝の時間の問い 合わせなども多いですが、悩みが あって来られる方もいらっしゃいま す。海兵隊にはカウンセリングを受 けられる場も沢山ありますが、正 式なカウンセリングを受ける前に、 まずは牧師さんに話を聞いてもら いたいという気持ちで訪れる方が いらっしゃるようです。その場合は 牧師に繋いだり、牧師との面談の 予約をとったりします。こちらの受 け答えによっては、悩みがある方を 助けてあげられないことにもなり かねないので、とても気を遣いま す。地味な仕事ですが、困っている

人が 来たら、その話を聞いてあげ られる人を必ず探すようにしていま す。それほど頻繁にあるわけでは ないですが、緊急だと思えば、すぐ に対処できる牧師を探すこともあ ります。

しゃるのですか? **小嶺:**沢山いますよ。太平洋海 兵隊基地に所属する牧師は沖縄だ けでも12名はいますし、その他に 第三海兵遠征軍やその所属部隊に も牧師がいます。沖縄には数十人 の牧師がいるんじゃないでしょう か。軍人は自分の部隊の牧師に相 談することが多いので、この教会に 相談にいらっしゃる方は、どちらか というと軍人のご家族の方が多い ですね。ただ、軍人でも自分の部隊 の牧師ではなくて、自分の宗派の 牧師(カトリック、プロテスタント、

ユダヤ教など)を選んで相談する人 もいます。

編集者:ちなみに、この教会の宗 派はなんですか?

小嶺;普通の教会と違って、軍の 教会は色んな宗派に対応していま 編集者: 牧師さんは何人もいらっ す。キリスト教、ユダヤ教、正教会、 イスラム教それぞれの牧師や礼拝 室があります。時には宗派に合わせ て礼拝堂に変更を加えることもあ ります。例えば、キリスト教の礼拝 室は、カトリックのミサの時とプロ テスタントの礼拝の時とで十字架 を換えますしユダヤ教徒が多く集 まる日は大き目のキリスト教の礼 拝室を使うことがあるのですが、そ の場合は十字架をカーテンで覆っ たりしてユダヤ教に合わせた状態 にします。

> 宗派は何であれ、皆さん礼拝以 外の時にも、嬉しいことを分かち合



ったり、先ほども話したとおり悩み やを相談したりするためにも足を運 ばれます。気持ちが安らげる場所を 提供することが、教会の仕事だと思 います。同じ信仰の人同士が集まる 心の拠り所なんですよ。

Specialist serves as point of contact at chapel

For this edition of the Big Circle we spoke with Yumi Komine, an administrative specialist with the chapel on Camp Foster.

Editor: What are your duties at the chapel?

Komine: I take calls and receive visitors. It is often an inquiry about worship service hours, but some calls are for consulting on the difficulties service members or their families may face. There are many trained counselors in the chains of command in the Marine Corps, but some people may just desire to speak with a chaplain first. In such cases, I refer the visitor or the caller to the chaplain, or make an

appointment for later consultation. I take great care because mishandling the needs of the caller is not beneficial in their time of need. It's not always glamorous work, but whenever someone in need turns to us, I do my best to find the right person who can listen to and render assistance. In case of an emergency, which is a rather rare instance, I find a chaplain who is available right away.

Editor: Is there more than one chaplain?

Komine: Oh, yes, there are many. There are 12 chaplains in Okinawa who are with the Marine Corps Installations Pacific. In addition, the III Marine Expeditionary Force and its subordinate units have

their own chaplains. There are dozens of chaplains on Okinawa. Active-duty members usually consult with their own unit's chaplain, so the majority of those who seek advice at our chapel are military dependents. However, some service members choose to talk to the chaplain of their particular faith (Catholic, Protestant, Jewish, etc.) rather than their unit chaplain.

Editor: Then, what faith is this chapel for?

Komine: The military chapel is different from civilian churches because it is made to accommodate several faiths. We have chapels and chaplains for those of the Christian, Jewish, Orthodox and Muslim

faiths, for example. Sometimes adjustments to the chapel are made such as the Christian chapel service displaying a different style cross for Catholic and Protestant services. When Jews use the bigger Christian chapel for a larger service, crosses are covered by curtains to make the room suitable for their religious practice.

Regardless of their religion, people come not only to attend the worship services but also to share fellowship and, as I mentioned previously, to seek assistance. The chapels are here to provide a place where people with the same faith gather and their hearts and spirits can be comforted.

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